

CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows, where added material is underlined and material to be deleted is indicated by strikethrough font. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

1. (Canceled).
2. (Previously presented) A method for treating obesity comprising ablating tissue on an exterior surface of a stomach of a patient with an ablation probe sized to fit the stomach and further comprising:
  - monitoring gastric myoelectric activity of the stomach prior to the ablation to determine a baseline digestion rate;
  - monitoring the gastric myoelectric activity of the stomach after the ablation to determine a post-ablation digestion rate; and
  - ablating additional stomach tissue based on a comparison of the post-ablation digestion rate to the baseline digestion rate.
3. (Original) The method for treating obesity of claim 2, wherein monitoring gastric myoelectric activity comprises recording an electrogastrogram (EGG) of the patient.
4. (Original) The method for treating obesity of claim 2, wherein monitoring the gastric myoelectric activity of the stomach after the ablation comprises monitoring the gastric myoelectric activity of the stomach one week after the ablation.
5. (Original) The method for treating obesity of claim 2, wherein the baseline digestion rate comprises a baseline rate of gastric emptying and the post-ablation digestion rate comprises a post-ablation rate of gastric emptying.

6. (Previously presented) The method for treating obesity of claim 2, wherein the comparison determines whether the ablation has slowed a peristaltic wave.

7. (Currently amended) The method for treating obesity of claim 2, wherein ablating tissue comprises ablating at least a portion of at least one of a pacemaker region, interstitial cells of Cajal, smooth muscle cells, a splanchnic nerve, and a vagus nerve.

Claims 8-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently amended) ~~The method of claim 24;~~ A method comprising:  
ablating tissue on an exterior surface of a stomach of a patient with an ablation  
probe sized to fit the stomach; and  
monitoring gastric activity of the stomach after the ablation, wherein monitoring gastric activity comprises assessing the impact of the ablation upon one of gastroparesis, nausea, and gastroesophageal reflux disease.

Claims 26-29. (Canceled)